



USDA Foreign Agricultural Service

# GAIN Report

Global Agriculture Information Network

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## Japan

### Citrus

## Chlorpyrifos MRL on Citrus Increased to 1 ppm; Testing-by-order on Oranges Lifted

### 2004

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#### Report Highlights:

On February 25, and effective immediately, the Ministry of Health, Labor and Welfare (MHLW) increased the Maximum Residue Level (MRL) for Chlorpyrifos on citrus, among other products, from .3 to 1 ppm, making it the same as the U.S. MRL. Concurrently, MHLW lifted all hold and test inspections on fresh oranges from the United States.

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Includes PSD Changes: No  
Includes Trade Matrix: No  
Unscheduled Report  
Tokyo [JA1]  
[JA]

Japan's Ministry of Health, Labor and Welfare (MHLW) had been reviewing the Maximum Residue Level (MRL) of Chlorpyrifos for various agricultural products, including most citrus products (JA3033). Effective immediately, on February 25, 2004, the MRL for oranges, grapefruits and lemons was revised to 1 ppm, the MRL level for citrus in the U.S.

Concurrently with the MRL revision, MHLW removed its testing-by-order (100% hold and test) imposed on certain fresh U.S. oranges. The hold and test requirements, previously in place, will be lifted effective immediately, and MHLW will return to normal monitoring procedures involving random inspections.

On April 3, 2003, MHLW imposed testing-by-order after two detections of Chlorpyrifos on U.S. oranges. The residue levels had been within U.S. MRL, but in excess of Japan's. Under the testing-by-order, fresh oranges shipped from the packinghouses involved in the two detections were held in bonded warehouses and released only after tests showed residues of Chlorpyrifos were within Japan's MRL. There have been no subsequent Chlorpyrifos residue findings on oranges in excess of Japan's MRL.